Once upon a time there was a little girl around the age of 5. In the summer she stayed at her Grandma and Grandpa’s house with her older cousin Julie. Julie was 10 at the time. In their grandparents yard was an apple tree. This tree was the perfect tree to climb in and pick fruit off of when it was fall. There were at least four perfect sitting spots in this apple tree which worked out because 4 girls would sit in it all summer long. One was the little girl who you are getting to know, another was her cousin, Julie, and the other two girls were twins from the neighbors down at the farm. The two twins named Tina and Jenny were the same age as Julie. Sometimes the little girl wasn’t included because she was so much younger than the other three girls. However on this day, all the girls played together in the apple tree. Julie had a great idea! She then ran into her grandparents’ house and came back with some string, clothes pins, paper, and colored pencils. This excellent idea was to create a mailing system in the apple tree! Each girl had a special spot in the tree so the girls quickly climbed to their spot and took the string and wrapped it everywhere in the tree. Each spot was connected. Then each girl received a colored pencil, some clothes pins, and some paper. They played for hours. A girl would write a note on a piece of paper, use the clothes pin to attach it to the string, and then pull the string so the note moves to the next person. From there, if the note was addressed to you, you would read it, if not you would attach it to a different piece of string and send it to the person who it is addressed too. Later when the little girl and Julie’s grandma came down the drive way, all she could see was four girls in the apple tree with so much string in it too. Their grandma said that she has never seen so much string in a tree before! That day the little girl had the chance to play with the older girls, build a mailing system in a tree, and practice writing and communicating with others. The little girl still remembers this day 14 years later.

Once upon a time, there was a little girl who grew up to be a young lady. This young lady just turned 19 years old. She was going to school in hopes to grow up to be a teacher. Although this young lady does a lot of things, she never had a true hobby. At her school there was a club called Quest that does all kinds of things that has to do with the outdoors. One day, the young lady saw a poster that Quest made. On this poster was a picture of a kayaker and it was offering kayaking lessons on Tuesday nights. Now, this young lady has been kayaking once before a few years ago but something really made her want to do this. Was it the fact that her older cousin who she looks up to, Sean does it or the fact that her Uncle and her other younger cousin Brody does it too? She’s not too sure but this young lady knew what she was doing on Tuesday nights with or without her friends. The first Tuesday was lonely, for none of her friends wanted to come but true to her words, the young lady still went. After what felt like forever, three students came in with kayaks, these were the instructors. Their names are Emily, AJ, and Ryan. The young lady gathered her courage and went over to say hi to the three instructors. That’s where the adventure begins. That Tuesday was the best Tuesday she’s ever had! The young lady made friends and even has, what she calls, a kayaking buddy. Her and her buddy named Chris were always partners for everything that they learned together. As the weeks went by, some of the young lady’s friends came to the lesson too. Even though the young lady hasn’t quite mastered the rolling of the kayak, she was able to help other beginners when the instructors were busy helping others. Finally when there were only two classes left, the young lady did her first roll! It was a very exciting day for her. Although she could not succeed every time, she knew that she could do it. That’s when she told her older cousin Sean. He was so excited to find out that the young lady was kayaking that he was about to buy her a boat for her own. The young lady did not want this gift for she wanted more practice before the decision of buying a boat. When it was time to come home for Thanksgiving, her cousin Sean made big plans. Those plans were to go kayaking! Although the young lady was worried for how cold it was, and how cold the water must be, she deceived to agree to go anyway. It was the big day and Sean was finally off from work and the young lady and Sean headed out to a place called Scudders Falls. At this amazing place were other kayakers and even dogs sitting on the kayaks with their owners! Sean and the young lady headed into the water and with a little warm up, the lesson began. Sean taught the young lady new definitions and how to get in and out of parts of the river. Finally the time came where the young lady had to do her roll. She was so nervous for she has never done it in a river before, only in the safety of a pool. After gathering all the courage she could, she finally rolled. And guess what? The young lady came right back up! She was so happy and she did it a few more times and every time she did, the young lady succeeded. Then it was finally time to return home for it was too dark to continue kayaking. That was a great day for the young lady for she was able to bond with her older cousin, learn some new tricks, and get over a small fear.

Once upon a time there was a young lady who grew up to be a wise woman. By now this wise women has a little boy and a little girl for herself. The wise woman loved playing with her children and spending time with them. The little boy said to his mommy that he wanted to learn how to play soccer. The wise woman was very excited for she once played soccer too. That spring, the wise woman signed her son up to play soccer but the wise woman also wanted to be the coach for the team. However, her little boy asked her politely not too because he would be embarrassed in front of all the new friends he wants to make. Listening to her son, the wise woman did not sign up to be coach. After a week of practicing and learning how to play, it was time for the first game. The wise woman saw that no mom brought snacks for any of the boys playing on the team. This is when she got a very good idea, be a soccer mom! The wise woman quickly ran to her car and drove to the nearest grocery store and picked up some oranges, snacks, and juices for the end of the game. The wise woman made it back to the field right in time for the game was just about to start. Her son was doing great and so was the rest of the team and by half time, the Yellow Wasps were up by 3 points! At half time, the wise woman passed out the oranges she bought to help the children get reenergize. The break was over and the team, with the wise woman’s son as playing forward, started the game again. Just then her son scored his very first point! The wise woman was so proud of him. However, the other team really wanted to win too so they scored a few points as well. Then the final whistle was blown. The score was 4 to 3. The Yellow Wasps won! All by one point, the one point that the wise woman’s son had scored. The wise woman’s daughter ran up and gave her brother a huge hug then turned to her mommy and said that she wanted to play soccer too. Since it was too late to play in the spring, the wise woman signed her up for soccer in the fall. The little girl begged her mom to be the coach. The wise woman was so happy for both her children were playing soccer just like her and she was able to have the best of all worlds, soccer mom for her son, and coach for her daughter. And just as the wise woman is learning on how to be a soccer mom and coach, her children and all the children on both teams will be learning from her on what teamwork is and a new physical game to play.